

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
)  
YAMAMOTO et al. ) Art Unit 2137  
)  
Application Number: 09/918,642 )  
) Examiner Kevin Schubert  
Filed: August 1, 2001 )  
)  
For: METHOD FOR OBTAINING A SOLUTION )  
OF AN OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM )  
)  
Attorney Docket No. ASAM.0013 )  
  
Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**LETTER TO THE OFFICE DRAFTSPERSON**

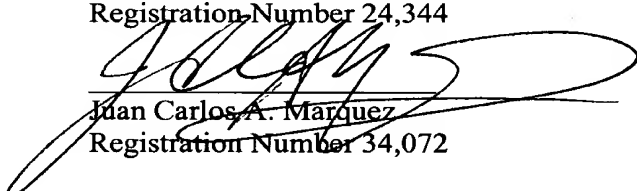
Sir:

Submitted herewith are corrected drawing replacement sheets that include Figures 8 and 13. Specifically, in Figure 8 of the drawings the spelling of the word "problem" has been corrected. Also, in Figure 13 of the drawings the spelling of the words "provider", "conversion" and "convert" has been corrected. Entry of the drawing amendments is respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully request that this application will continue to issuance.

Kindly direct any inquiries in connection with this matter to the undersigned at the below-listed address and telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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